



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
McDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, January 12, 2012

**Florence Ely Nelson Desert Park
8950 E. Pinnacle Peak Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

PRESENT: Howard Myers, Chairman
James Heitel, Vice Chairman
Fred Klein, Commissioner
Marg Nelssen, Commissioner
Con Englehorn, Commissioner

ABSENT: Susan Wheeler, Commissioner
Rand Hubbell, Commissioner

STAFF: Kroy Ekblaw
Bill Murphy
Claire Miller
Robbin Schweitzer
Scott Hamilton
Joe Padilla

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Frost

GUESTS Mike Nolan

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Myers called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present as noted above.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VICE-CHAIR HEITEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 1, 2011 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER NELSEN, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0).

5. STAFF REPORTS

- Land Acquisition

Mr. Murphy thanked Chair Myers for his years of service on the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission and presented him with a token of appreciation. Mr. Ekblaw noted appreciation for Deke Joralmon's years of service.

Mr. Ekblaw noted that the City was successful at the December 7 and 14th auctions and payments have been completed. He anticipated that the City would receive the \$36 million from State Parks as early as next week. Due diligence work is under way for the three applications currently with the State Land Department and numbers should be ready in the June/July time frame. He gave an update on the zoning case discussions and SLUP areas.

Commissioners were given the opportunity to ask questions.

6. MSPC QUARTERLY REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

COMMISSIONER KLEIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MSPC QUARTERLY REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL. SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR HEITEL, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0).

7. MSPC 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

VICE-CHAIR HEITEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MSPC 2011 ANNUAL REPORT. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KLEIN, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0).

8. *MCDOWELL SONORAN CONSERVANCY UPDATE

Mr. Nolan updated the Commission on activities at the conservancy, including themed community hikes, the McDowell Field Institute lecture series, volunteer hours, and the biological inventory noting that the large mammal survey will be done by helicopter.

9. ETHICS TRAINING

Mr. Padilla presented a video of the Ethics Training refresher to the Commission.

10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

CHAIR MYERS NOMINATED VICE-CHAIR HEITEL FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIRMAN. THE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED WITH A VOTE OF FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR HEITEL ABSTAINED.

VICE-CHAIR HEITEL NOMINATED COMMISSIONER KLEIN FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR. THE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED WITH A VOTE OF FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONER KLEIN ABSTAINED.

11. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Klein mentioned that he was aware of several instances of car break-ins at trailheads and suggested that better security measures be taken. Ms. Miller and Ms. Schweitzer explained the safety measures that have been taken, including posted signs and limited surveillance. Discussion ensued about possible security solutions.

Commissioner Englehorn said that he was looking forward to participating as a member of the Commission.

Chair Myers discussed issues and challenges that have been ongoing over the past few years and that continue to be a threat to the Commission. He encouraged the Commissioners to continue to work to protect and grow the Preserve.

12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 2, 2012

Possible agenda items include:

- Fred Klein, Flora Signage
- McDowell Sonoran Conservancy Update – Mike Nolan
- Commission Bylaws

Additional items to be agendaized include parking lot signage, special events, the DDC update, and the process of conducting surveys.

Mr. Padilla noted that the bylaws template is currently being developed.

Mr. Ekblaw asked that Chairman Myers and Vice-Chairman Heitel attend the City Council meeting and acquisition presentation on January 24th.

13. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz